surface of the electrode plate 61 opposed to the active substrate 2. The chemical solution is confined in a specified region by pressing the electrode plate 61 against the active substrate 2. After completion of the pin hole inspection, the electrode plate 61 is moved away from the active substrate 2 and the chemical solution adhered to the active substrate 2 is recovered and removed. Then, the active substrate 2 is separated from the stage, and taken out of the chemical treatment system after the chemical solution is further removed. It is apparent that the material of the sponge and the material of the member for adhering or fixing the sponge to the electrode plate 61 must be selected taking chemical resistance into account in relation to the chemical characteristics of the chemical solution.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 47 and 48 with:

As shown in FIGURE 14(1), a piping system for circulating the electrolytic solution 62 is formed as a closed circuit by connecting a supply pipe 83, the box-like container 80 and an electrolytic solution recovery pipe 82, the supply pipe 83 having an electrolytic solution supply tank 85 and an electrolytic

solution supply pump 86. Reference numeral 87 represents a filter for removing particles and impurities contained in the electrolytic solution, whereas reference numeral 88 represents a temperature controlling system such as a cooler for controlling the temperature of the circulating electrolytic solution 62. In addition, pure water supplied from a pure water supply port 101 and an inactive gas such as nitrogen gas supplied from a drying gas supply port 102 are sent to the box-like container 80 by switching selector valves 91, 92. Similarly, the electrolytic solution 62 recovered from the chemical solution recovery port 82, treating water discharged after washing the inside of the box-like container 69, and a treating gas which has been used for drying the inside of the box-like container 69 are sent to either the chemical solution circulating tank 85 or a drain (and exhaust) port 103, by operation of selector valves 93, 94 in combination.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1 and 2 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amend claims 9, 10, and 24 as follows: